

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 2018-188-C - ORDER NO. 2018-441

JUNE 28, 2018

IN RE: Joint Petition of Fort Mill Telephone	)	ORDER GRANTING
Company d/b/a Comporium	)	APPROVAL OF
Communications and Lancaster Telephone	)	CHANGES IN
Company d/b/a Comporium	)	BOUNDARY LINE
Communications for Approval of Changes in	)	
Boundary Line	)	

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Regs. § 103-612.2.3, this matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the Joint Petition of Fort Mill Telephone Company d/b/a Comporium Communications ("Fort Mill") and Lancaster Telephone Company d/b/a Comporium Communications ("Lancaster") (collectively the “Joint Petitioners” or “Companies”) for approval of a change in the boundary line between the Companies. As mentioned in the Joint Petition, Fort Mill and Lancaster are both Comporium companies, and each does business under the Comporium trade name. The Companies have substantial common ownership, with Rock Hill Telephone Company d/b/a Comporium Communications owning 100% of Fort Mill and 96% of Lancaster. Joint Petitioners state this change in the boundary line between the Companies will not affect any current customers.

**Proposed Boundary Line:**

The proposed boundary line can be described as follows: Where Lancaster County parcel ID # 0022-00-007.00 crosses over Twelve Mile Creek, the new border will

follow the southern edge of parcel ID # 0022-00-007.00 to Van Wyck Rd. It will then follow Van Wyck Rd. south to the northern corner of Lancaster County parcel ID # 0019-00-031.00. The new border will follow the eastern edge of Lancaster County parcel ID # 0019-00-031.00 down to its southern point. It will then follow the southern edge of Lancaster County parcel ID # 0019-00-001.00 west to the Catawba River. The new intersection of the Lancaster, Fort Mill, and Comporium, Inc. (f/k/a Rock Hill Telephone Company) ILEC boundaries will be where Lancaster County parcel ID # 0019-00-001.00 meets the Catawba River.

**Position of the Joint Petitioners:**

According to the Companies, the developer of a neighborhood in Fort Mill's service area has recently purchased additional property that would expand the neighborhood into the service area of Lancaster. The planned development now straddles the existing boundary between Fort Mill and Lancaster, and the land for the planned development consists of contiguous parcels owned by a single developer. Joint Petitioners further state that, although there are currently no customers in the portion of Lancaster's service area that is part of the planned subdivision, without this change, future residents would likely need to make toll calls to communicate with others in the same neighborhood.

Additionally, Fort Mill and Lancaster would like to establish the new boundary not only to accommodate the expected planned development, but also to follow property parcel lines in the general vicinity of the boundary line in order to reduce the chances that the boundary will have to be moved again to accommodate growth in the area. As the area in question becomes more developed, parcels of property that are contiguous and

under common ownership or control will be located in the service area of a single incumbent local exchange carrier, either Fort Mill or Lancaster.

**ORS's Position:**

The Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") states that it has reviewed the Joint Petition and does not oppose the new proposed boundary line between Lancaster and Fort Mill. It also states that it supports the collaborative efforts of the Joint Petitioners and encourages other telecommunications companies to use the same approach when feasible.

**Findings and Conclusion:**

We find it is in the best interest of the Companies and in the public interest to define the service boundary between Fort Mill and Lancaster in such a manner as to provide local calling within planned and future subdivisions, and to avoid confusion and possible future disputes. Furthermore, given the common ownership of the Companies, it is in the public interest to define the boundary such that it will have the least possible impact on future customers. Therefore, the request of the Joint Petitioners is approved, and the new boundary line as described above is granted.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

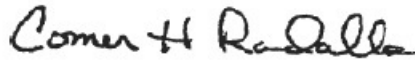
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



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Swain E. Whitfield, Chairman

ATTEST:



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Comer H. Randall, Vice Chairman